

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. The Examiner acknowledges receipt of the Amendment filed on June 2, 2009.

Claims 1-12 are currently pending.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Scott R. Foster, Esq. on July 29, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 16 the word "cutch" has been replaced with --clutch--.

Drawings

3. The drawings were received on June 2, 2009. These drawings are acceptable. The objection to the drawings as set forth in the Office Action dated February 18, 2009 is withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-12 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not anticipate or render obvious an output assembly having operating fluid being conveyed from a first pressure chamber of a piston/cylinder unit through an axial bore defined by a connecting line provided in a clutch shaft to a second pressure

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chamber, which is sealed by an annular piston of a clutch actuating ring, and the piston/cylinder unit being connected to the axial bore of the connecting line provided in the clutch shaft rotationally fixedly, pressure-tightly, and co-rotatably with the clutch shaft from which the axial bore of connecting line which is provided in the clutch shaft opens into the second pressure chamber, in combination with the remaining structure of claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUSTIN HOLMES whose telephone number is (571)272-3448. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am to 4:30pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/JUSTIN HOLMES/
Examiner, Art Unit 3655

/Rodney H. Bonck/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3655